

CASTRO TO TEST MONROE DOCTRINE

Venezuelan President Continues Campaign Against Foreigners.

PEOPLE ARE READY TO ABANDON CASTRO

Reports Indicate That France or
Any Other Power Can Rely
Upon Almost the Entire
Population to Fight
the Pres-
dent.

(By Associated Press.)
WILLEMSTAD, CURACAO, Friday
February 9.—Conditions in Venezuela were
unchanged at the date of the latest ad-
vices from that country. The censorship
is rigid. One report is that the attitude of
Vice-President Vincente Gomez, who is
said to be plotting a revolution against
President Castro, in case of a French
blockade, is causing some anxiety.
It is reported also that General Antonio
Velutini, Second Vice-President, has a
secret understanding with France.

The total strength of the Venezuelan army is reported to be 5,000 men, and not 23,000, as the army accounts state. The total armament is 50,000 mautser rifles and 20,000 90 ball cartridges; eighty pieces of small artillery of old-fashioned type.

The treasury shows a balance of \$300,000. President Castro is said to be boasting that he will test the Monroe doctrine. The reports are that the best information in Venezuela is that the French, or any other power can rely upon almost the entire populace to fight. President Castro, and that anxiety is everywhere expressed for the arrival of the French to solve the problem, which is beyond the resources of the Venezuelans.

Money will be decidedly scarcer, if war should break out, and the Venezuela government has made no provision whatever for the commissariat.

President Castro continues his campaign against foreigners, and has expelled a man named Van Kesterin.

CASTRO MUST GO SAYS EL MOCHO

Exiled Venezuelan Denies, However, That He is Planning

Revolution.

NEW YORK, February 11.—General Jose Manuel Hernandez, "El Mocho," implacable foe of Castro, in exile in this city, declares he cannot understand how reports that he is on the point of leading a revolution against the Venezuelan dictator originate. At the same time the stern old revolutionist scores in unmeasured terms the Castro administration and Castro himself.

"So long," he asserted, "as that man holds the power, not so long will our country face trouble without end and trouble

within; just so long also will the United States find itself menaced because of the Monroe Doctrine."

"El Mocha," son of a revolutionist and

himself twice imprisoned in San Carlos, where, loaded with shackles and chains, he spent more than two years, in the New York city. Recently he returned from the Canary Islands and since his return the report that he contemplated leading a revolt originated in diplomatic circles at Washington.

His quarters at the Hotel Empire yesterday resembled a business office, and there were many swarthy visitors, all of whom are said to be part of his great army of friends in this country.

"I, who am an exile in this country, see with relief the dancer's life before me."

my own countrymen," said he. "I see my country oppressed; I see her unhappy at home and in constant trouble with the countries abroad. They do not wish this my countrymen, The Venezuelans are a peaceful people. Their ambition is to live in harmony with the world and to prosper. They find themselves in the iron grip of a man who has well been said to be 'money mad.'

Change Must Come.

"There must be no other person in Venezuela to-day but the President."

There must be no prosperity, no security, no peace. The revenues of the State are all for his private fortune. Venezuela is rich in natural resources, but to-day the monopolies of all these things are Castro's. They would pay their debts, but the funds are all Castro's. Instead of warships, ready for action, they would like to welcome the visit of friendly fleets as you do in this country. That is impossible.

"It is no new condition in the country. It is of three years' standing. Although the last revolution has been ended this year, Castro, but still collects the wa-

He still has at least two thousand men

imprisoned for political reasons, and is adding to the number every day. The country is almost his plaything and his toy.

I am astonished that it should be reported that I am now preparing for a revolution. Such reports are inspired by my enemies. If it were true, however, I would be the height of folly for me to speak of it.

It was reported from Washington in dispatches that in a revolution I am to receive the support of the asphalt companies and of the oil companies. I told you that I am not planning a revolution, and you may say that I am not to receive the endorsement or support of the company named. Personally I may say that I am not planning a revolution, but I would like to have it thought that they were supporting and helping me, because that would undoubtedly attract many to the cause, but I must say to the contrary.